## **IDENTITY THEFT PREVENTION**

Notify the credits bureaus and place a "fraud alert" on your credit report.

The three major credit bureaus can be contacted at the following telephone numbers or by e-mail:

Equifax: 1-800-525-6285; <a href="www.equifax.com">www.equifax.com</a>
Experian: 1-888-397-3742; <a href="www.experian.com">www.experian.com</a>
TransUnion: 1-800-680-7289; <a href="www.transunion.com">www.transunion.com</a>

There is no cost involved and this will prevent an identity thief from opening an account in your name.

The "fraud alert" is added to your credit file and lasts for 90 days. Creditors are alerted to possible fraudulent activity and it notifies them to contact you prior to anyone establishing credit in your name.

After placing a "fraud alert" on your credit report, you will be able to secure free copies.

Inform the credit bureaus to utilize only the last four digits of your Social Security number on your report.

Free credit reports can also be obtained from each of the three credit bureaus at www.annualcreditreport.com.

Lastly, it is important to REMAIN VIGILANT!